



**HENRY STREET
SETTLEMENT**

NEWS from HENRY STREET

SUMMER 2008

265 HENRY STREET, NEW YORK NY 10002

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Real Life Stories

Below are the stories of two typical Workforce Development Center clients.

“Go to Henry Street. They can help.”

That’s what John, 45, was told by a friend when the Brooklyn factory where he had worked his entire adult life shut down, leaving him without a job and with a limited skill set. Newspaper ads all seemed to turn into dead ends. Frustrated, daunted and feeling alone, he didn’t know where to turn.

At Henry Street, John found the support he needed. Before coming to the Workforce Development Center (WDC), he was unable to articulate his skills, knowledge or experience. But the team at the Center helped him create a working resume and, more importantly, stuck with him through the entire process of interviews, some rejection and finally success.

Tom knew that he could make money on the streets, but it wasn’t a road he was ready to take.

When the 18-year-old high school drop-out came to Henry Street, he had never held a formal job. Tom expected a quick “hook-up” to a job, not a comprehensive orientation and evaluation process. However, he made a personal commitment to stay with the program.

After gaining practice through the Center’s videotaped mock interviews, Tom was able to speak about his skills and he accepted a position as a stocker at a local grocery store, where he is in line for a promotion. Even better, with a stable job in hand, he hopes to finally be able to earn his GED.

Workforce Development Center: WORKING FOR EVERYONE

Henry Street’s Workforce Development Center (WDC) makes dreams come true for more than 1,000 New Yorkers each year. That’s because the Center is the portal to employment—and the twin goals of economic stability and self-sufficiency—for those facing difficulty in the job market.

“We provide job training, job placement and retention assistance to immigrants, public assistance recipients, out-of-school youth, unemployed or underemployed adults—and just about everyone else who needs our help,” explained David Garza, chief administrator of the WDC. The Center also gives clients the necessary education and social supports they need to succeed in the workplace, and that support continues even after they have found a job.

Job seekers begin by enrolling in the WDC’s four phase introductory training (also available in an ESL option), in which participants create or improve their resume, practice interview skills and learn job-finding techniques. Participants will also learn to identify their strengths, design a plan for success and increase their confidence. By the fourth phase, individuals will be working full- or part-time.

In addition to job training and placement, the WDC offers customized staffing services for employers, providing business owners with employees trained to meet their specific hiring needs.

The Center, located at the corner of Essex and Delancey Streets, welcomes walk-ins from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. All services (and even the coffee) are free.

For more information, please call 212.478.5400 or email workforce@henrystreet.org.



Employment specialists Jordan Leff and Pamela Hendry work with job seekers in the WDC computer lab.

HENRY STREET happenings

Henry Street Settlement enriches the lives of Lower East Side residents and all New Yorkers through innovative social services, arts programs and health care services. Here's a snapshot of some current programs:

Henry Street Featured on PBS DOCUMENTARY

Henry Street Settlement and its founder Lillian Wald were featured in a documentary, *The Jewish Americans*, which aired recently on PBS. In addition to historical coverage, the film featured some present-day happenings at the Settlement, including a segment filmed at the Barbara L. Tate Summer Arts Camp, held at the Abrons Arts Center.

▶ Lillian Wald, who founded Henry Street Settlement in 1893.



From ABRONS to EUROPE: Student Artwork Crosses the Ocean

This spring, visual arts students at the Abrons Arts Center were treated to two exciting workshops with Tim Rollins + K.O.S. (Kids of Survival).

Rollins, the internationally celebrated visual artist and educator, founded K.O.S. in 1982 for at-risk youth, believing that these students could benefit from studying the works of great artists, writers and composers.

Participants in the workshops, ages eight to 14, collaborated with Rollins and K.O.S. to create a piece of art based on their study of Shakespeare's play, "A Midsummer Nights Dream."

But the story gets even better: The painting, aptly entitled *A Midsummer Night's Dream (after Shakespeare and Mendelssohn)*, 2008, was purchased by a well-known European art collector and is now displayed overseas.

▲ Martin Dust, far left, director of visual arts at the Abrons Arts Center, and noted artist Tim Rollins, far right, work with art students at Abrons. The painting-in-progress is hanging on the wall.

500 PAIRS of SHOES!

Henry Street Settlement was the recipient of a generous gift — more than 500 pairs of shoes — courtesy of Malaak Compton-Rock, Erica Reid and Liz Claiborne, Inc. Dozens of clients served by Henry Street's many programs were on hand to greet the generous benefactors —and to select a new pair of shoes.

The shoe give-away began when Ms. Reid and her husband Antonio "L.A." Reid, Island Def Jam Music Group chairman, invited friends to their apartment to watch the premiere of "Oprah's Big Give" and asked them to bring new shoes to donate. Among the group of generous guests was Ms. Compton-Rock, a judge on the television show. During the party, Tim Gunn, chief creative officer of Liz Claiborne, Inc. surprised the group with an the announcement that he would add an additional 500 pairs of shoes to those already collected.

Ms. Reid, Ms. Compton-Rock and representatives from Liz Claiborne, Inc. personally delivered the shoes to Henry Street clients; the event appeared on Oprah Winfrey Show in March.

Verona Middleton-Jeter, Executive Director of Henry Street, is flanked by Malaak Compton-Rock, left, and Erica Reid at the new shoe give-away.



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www.henrystreet.org/arts



And THEY'RE OFF... to Colby, Mount Holyoke, Brandeis and More!

All of the nearly 100 high school seniors served by Henry Street's Expanded Horizons program have been admitted to college — many at their first choice school and with generous financial aid packages. Expanded Horizons is the Settlement's free, year-round program to help prepare students for college. Expanded Horizon's new partnership with the Princeton Review has helped level the playing field by providing students with no-cost SAT preparation equal to that available to their more affluent peers.

While this group of graduates is well on its way to higher education, incoming high school seniors will attend Henry Street's Summer College Prep Institute, a six-week college "boot camp" designed to give students a head start on the admission process, including help with application and portfolio preparation, rigorous SAT tutoring and more.

▲ Expanded Horizons participants pose at Brown University during a recent campus visit. Each year, the Henry Street program takes high school juniors and seniors to visit nearly 10 colleges in the northeast.

Never Too Old to PARTY!

Seniors at Henry Street's Good Companions Senior Center celebrated Chinese New Year with musical performances, a traditional good luck dance complete with costumes and group singing — just one of the many programs provided free throughout the year. In addition to hot lunch served weekdays and Sundays, Good Companions offers exercise classes, a gymnasium for workouts, speakers on topics of interest to seniors, parties and trips to museums and other venues.



▲ Above: Jeffrey Tucker, Jackie and Max Harary, and Stephanie Gordon.
Right: Richard and Iris Abrons



The ART SHOW Turns 20!

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, The Art Show — one of New York's most cherished events and an essential fundraiser for Henry Street — brought in more than \$1.5 million to support the Settlement's services and programs.

Organized by the Art Dealers Association of America to benefit Henry Street, the Art Show attracted more than 10,000 people to the elegantly outfitted Park Avenue Armory during the show, which ran from February 21st to 25th, 2008. Proceeds from the Gala Preview, run-of-show ticket sales, the silent auction of an Alex Katz painting and a George Condo drawing, as well as the sale of a limited-edition Jessica Craig-Martin print, were donated to the Settlement.

The Art Show received generous support from lead underwriter, Lehman Brothers, and from Fairfield Greenwich Group. Alexandra Lebenthal, Kathy and Richard S. Fuld, Jr. and Byron and Anita Volz Wien were this year's Co-Chairs. Art world notables Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell, Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro and Kathleen and Roland Augustine served as Honorary Co-Chairs.



▲ Top left: Alexandra Lebenthal and Verona Middleton-Jeter. Top right: left to right, Dale Burch, Leola and Robert Macdonald, and Anita Wien. Above: Rob and Melissa Burch with young collectors.

A Peek Inside Henry Street's PARENT CENTER

On a typical weekday, Henry Street's Parent Center is filled with parents, grandparents, childcare providers and, of course, babies and toddlers. They arrive to take part in one of the Center's many programs — movement and music classes, parenting skills workshops, and to hear experts discuss topics ranging from healthy cooking to toilet training — and much more. All programs are free.

Greeting all who enter is Elaine Winter, one of New York's well known early childhood educators, who became director of the Parent Center in 2007 after 17 years as lower school principal of the renowned Little Red School House in Greenwich Village. She has built on the Center's reputation for innovative programming. The Parent Center now offers Thursday workshops (on topics like playground safety and musical introduction to Baby Sign; parent evenings (on topics like negotiating kindergarten admissions); numerous weekly programs (relaxation & yoga, parent/toddler playgroups); a daily "drop in" for parents; weekly pizza parties and seasonal events.

The Center — a cheerful space that occupies the garden level of a federal row house at 281 East Broadway — was established in 2004 as part of Henry Street's Health and Wellness Cluster, and is additionally staffed by two psychologists. A valuable resource and support network for neighborhood families, the Center welcomes parents and caregivers from the surrounding public housing projects and from the co-ops, from homeless shelters and nearby treatment centers.

For more information on any of the Parent Center programs, please call 212.962.0729 or visit www.henrystreet.org/parentcenter.



Anya Moscovice, Psy.D., parent educator at the Parent Center, left, with a group of toddlers and parents.

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and p.3 (Art Show)
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